

**EAST KAWEAH GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY
ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES FOR THE MEETING ON August 16, 2021**

The East Kaweah Groundwater Sustainability Agency (“EKGSA”) Advisory Committee duly met for a meeting on Monday, August 16, 2021, via video/phone conference and in person. Public via video/phone conference only – COVID-19 protocol.

OPEN SESSION: Convened at 4:09 p.m.

1. **MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chairman Joe Ferrara (non-voting), Matthew Watkins, Soapy Mulholland (late), Graham Burt, Alan Lombardi, Vito DeLeonardis (late), Blanca Escobedo, Luis Sanchez-Balle. (Quorum = 5 voting members)

MEMBERS ABSENT: Jeff Powers

OTHERS PRESENT: Director Hornung; Director Crosson; Michael Hagman, Executive Director; Joe Hughes, Legal Counsel; Matt Klinchuch, Provost & Pritchard; Trilby Barton, Provost & Pritchard; Cruz Romero, Staff Engineer; Kathy Bennett, Senior Analyst; and various members of the public.

2. **APPROVE THE AGENDA:** Motion to approve the agenda was made by Mr. Lombardi, seconded by Mr. Watkins, and carried by the following vote:

AYES: Matthew Watkins, Luis Sanchez-Balle, Graham Burt, Alan Lombardi, Blanca Escobedo

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Jeff Powers, Soapy Mulholland, and Vito DeLeonardis

3. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** No public comment

4. **MINUTES:** Motion to approve and ratify minutes July 19, 2021, Advisory Committee meeting was made by Mr. Lombardi, seconded by Mr. Burt, and carried by the following vote:

AYES: Matthew Watkins, Luis Sanchez-Balle, Graham Burt, Alan Lombardi, Blanca Escobedo

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Jeff Powers, Soapy Mulholland, and Vito DeLeonardis

5. **EKGSA ACTIVITY REPORT:**

- a. Technical Committee – Klinchuch reported on the last TAC meeting. The TAC has been progressing on the development of an allocation methodology and that the latest reporting from Land IQ shows more water used this year as compared to last year.
- b. Board of Directors – Hagman reported on the Board meeting that was on July 26th noting several things that were discussed and that the Ad Hoc Committee will be meeting soon to discuss the Shared Resources Agreement that expires at the end of 2021.

6. KAWEAH SUB-BASIN ACTIVITY REPORT:

- a. WCB Grant – RCIS: Hagman presented a status update of the grant. He also noted that the RCIS public meeting was held on July 21, 2021 at the Tulare International Ag Center.
- b. Prop 68 – Planning: Hagman presented a status update of the grant (video of wells; meter analysis). One of the three projects is complete (SkyTem) while the well videoing and meter study projects are underway.
- c. Kaweah Sub-Basin Management Team – Matt Watkins noted the team is working on a water marketing plan for the sub basin and have hired Stantec (Bill Swanson) as consultants to lead this effort.

7. GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLAN IMPLEMENTATION:

- a. Land IQ Hagman noted that the ET report now has twelve statistically relevant months of data. Staff Engineer Romero is working on creating ET by Management Area. This will aid in identifying problem areas.
- b. Methods of Allocation - Updated Allocation Methods memo: The draft memo was briefly discussed and the AC requested that a copy of it, which summarizes the allocation methods the AC was considering, be sent to the Board of Directors. A motion to approve sending the draft allocation memo to the EKGSA Board of Directors was made by Mr. DeLeonardis and seconded by Mr. Mauritsen and carried by the following vote:

AYES: Matthew Watkins, Luis Sanchez-Balle, Graham Burt, Alan Lombardi, Blanca Escobedo, Soapy Mulholland, Vito DeLeonardis

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Jeff Powers

- c. Outreach Efforts: - Develop Outreach approach to describe annual report for stakeholder consumption. Trilby reviewed with the Committee the draft Annual Report Summary that she had provided them before the meeting. There were several comments suggesting changes and she acknowledged she would take care of those before sending to the Board. Trilby also had provided a couple pages with irrigation efficiency evaluation resources that will be available on the EKGSA website for anyone interested.

- 8. Timeline and Next Steps – Monday, September 20, 2021 at 4:00 p.m. is the next scheduled Advisory Committee meeting. In person meeting for committee members and staff only. All others on Zoom.

9. ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, Chairman Ferrara asked for a motion to adjourn. Motion to adjourn (Lombardi/Watkins) carried by unanimous vote of those present. Meeting was adjourned at 5:42.

